



The Dartmoor Federation comprises:

- Boasley Cross Primary School
- Bridestowe Primary School
- Exbourne Church of England Primary School
- Highampton County Primary School
- Lydford Primary School
- Northlew & Ashbury Parochial Church of England Primary
- Okehampton College



Lydford Primary



Okehampton College

Dear All Interested Parties

9 January 2017

The Governors of Highampton Community Primary School are proposing to join The Dartmoor Federation. We are committed to creating the very best educational opportunities for our learners in the 21st Century. The pursuit of excellence through collaboration, regardless of geographical location will ensure that our learners receive a consistent, high quality, equitable experience that will underpin their lifelong learning.

We are proposing to federate to maximise opportunities to further develop high standards in teaching and learning across seven schools, while continuing to recognise each school's unique individual ethos and values. This proposed federation will involve a mix of community schools and two church schools who will maintain their Christian distinctiveness. The current admissions processes will remain the same.

We would like to reassure all parents that the proposal to join the federation may help to secure our school's futures, but in today's financial world it is no guarantee that unviable schools will be safeguarded.

There are many benefits of this federation, a few of which are:

For learners:

- sharing expertise to improve learning experiences for all
- enhancing teaching and learning opportunities
- developing transition between primary and secondary phases
- improving access to social activities e.g. sport, dance, drama, arts

For staff:

- more opportunities for staff development and collaborative working
- flexibility of staffing across schools

Standards:

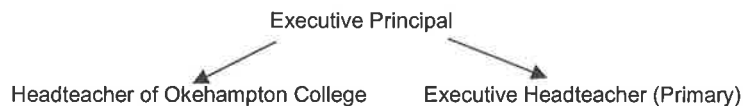
- consistent monitoring of standards
- sharing expertise and reducing duplication of tasks

The future:

- improving access and utilisation of resources across the schools
- sustaining quality leadership for the future

How does this work?

The Federation leadership structure is:



The proposal is to retain the:

- existing staff
- existing uniforms
- existing sites
- existing curricula
- existing Parent Teacher and Friends Associations
- local views will be represented through Partnership Boards in each school

The membership of the single governing body includes representation for parents and staff of all the schools, co-opted governors, co-operative trust and foundation governors. Together this group of people will take overall responsibility for all schools within the federation.

In line with the School Governance (Federations) (England) Regulations 2012, the proposed size of our federated governing body would be 17, this would include:

- 2 Parent
- 3 Headteachers
- 1 Staff
- 2 Foundation (Co-operative Trust)
- 3 Foundation (Exeter Diocese)
- 1 Local Authority governor
- 5 Co-opted governor

The governing bodies are proposing that the enlarged federation start date would be 18 April 2017.

The Federation Consultation Process

The Governors of Highampton Community Primary School and The Dartmoor Federation are required to set up a consultation process to seek the views of parents, staff, the community, the local authority and other key partners such as the Diocesan Board of Education. The consultation process will last 6 weeks, starting with Monday 9 January 2017. Governors would welcome your views and invite you to one of the following meeting. The senior leaders from the schools will be in attendance at the meetings on:

Monday 16 January 2017: 3.30 – 4.00 for Parents, 4.00 – 4.30 for Staff, 4.30 – 5.00 for Community (Highampton Primary)
Wednesday 18 January 2017: 4.00 – 4.30 for staff, 4.30 – 5.00 for Parents, 5.00 – 5.30 for Community (Okehampton College)

If you are unable to attend any of the above meetings, please contact the school to make an appointment in the usual manner.

Written responses should be addressed or headed to 'The Chair of Governors' of your school and must be received by **Friday 24 February 2017 at 3.30pm**. A post box for written responses will be provided in each school and these dedicated email addresses are available:

clerk@highampton-primary.devon.sch.uk

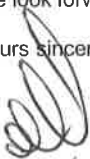
chair@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

A copy of the letter is available on each school website.

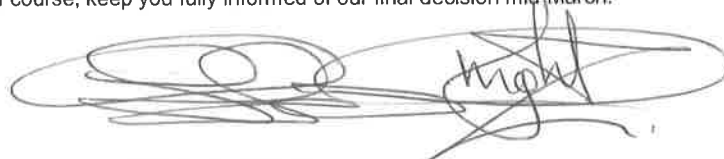
It is the Governors who will make the final decision, drawing upon a broad evidence base including the views of all consultees. Each governing body makes its own decision. As with every governing body decision this is a simple majority taken at a full governing body meeting.

We look forward to hearing from you and will, of course, keep you fully informed of our final decision mid-March.

Yours sincerely



Ian Courtney
Chair of Governors The Dartmoor Federation



Christopher Wright
Chair of Governors Highampton Community Primary School



Daryll Chapman
Executive Principal The Dartmoor Federation



Sandra Barnett
Headteacher, Highampton Community Primary School